

Official

**MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.**

Attorneys at Law  
3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1500  
Houston, Texas 77056-6582  
Telephone (713) 623-4844  
Facsimil (713) 623-4846  
[www.mpsllp.com](http://www.mpsllp.com)

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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

<b>DATE:</b> May 28, 2002	<b>FILE NO:</b> WEAT/0076
<b>TO:</b> EXAMINER DAVID BOCHNA	<b>FAX NO:</b> 703-308-3691
<b>COMPANY:</b> USPTO	
<b>FROM:</b> WILLIAM B. PATTERSON	<b>PAGE(S):</b> 11 with cover
<b>MESSAGE:</b>	<b>Original to Follow</b> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

**SECOND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002**

U.S. Serial No. 09/381,508  
Filing Date: September 21, 1999  
Inventor: Metcalfe  
Examiner: David Bochna  
Group Art Unit: 3629

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Metcalf

Serial No.: 09/381,508

Confirmation No.: 4047

Filed: September 21, 1999

For: EXPANDABLE SLOTTED  
TUBING STRING AND  
METHOD FOR CONNECTING  
SUCH A TUBING STRING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3629

Examiner: Bochna, David

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May 28, 2002  
Date

Signature

SECOND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002

In response to the Final Office Action dated February 26, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 26, 2002, please enter the following response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0076/WBP for any fees necessary to make the submission of this response timely.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. An expandable tubing assembly comprising:  
a tubular connector defining overlapping longitudinal slots and comprising an intermediate portion located between slotted end portions, the connector being radially

DB  
6/11/02  
Enter Amendment  
Entered  
6-10-02